Fuel Cell Vehicles

Robert Kosak York Technical College

What are Fuel Cells?

Electrochemical energy conversion device

Produces electricity, water, and heat by the combination of hydrogen and oxygen

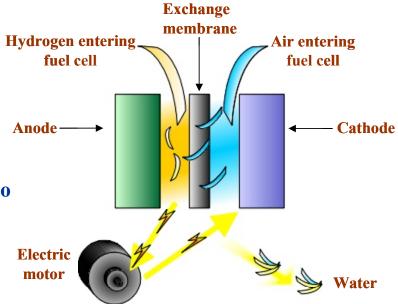
Two to three times more efficient than an internal combustion engine

How a Fuel Cell Works

Anode (-) a platinum catalyst helps the separation of hydrogen gas into electrons and hydrogen ions

Membrane hydrogen ions pass through the membrane, the electrons flow through an external circuit producing electricity

Cathode (+) a platinum catalyst helps the hydrogen ions, oxygen, and the electrons combine to for water



Infrastructure

Hydrogen Production

Steam Reformation of Hydrocarbon Fuel Separating carbon and hydrogen Forms H_2 and CO_2 Least expensive

Electrolysis

Electric current passes through water to produce H_2 and O_2 Expensive Potential for zero emissions and sustainable production

Hydrogen Storage

On Board Storage

Compressed Hydrogen Gas
Liquefied Hydrogen
Hydrogen Absorbed on a Metal Hydride
Zero emissions

On Board Production with a Reformer

Hydrocarbon Based Fuel Methanol Some emissions

Direct Methanol Fuel Cell

No reformer needed to generate hydrogen

Methanol is injected directly into the fuel cell

Methanol reacts to form electricity and CO₂



Ballard Buses



Ford Prodigy



GM Precept Demo 2004

Fuel Cell Vehicles



Chrysler



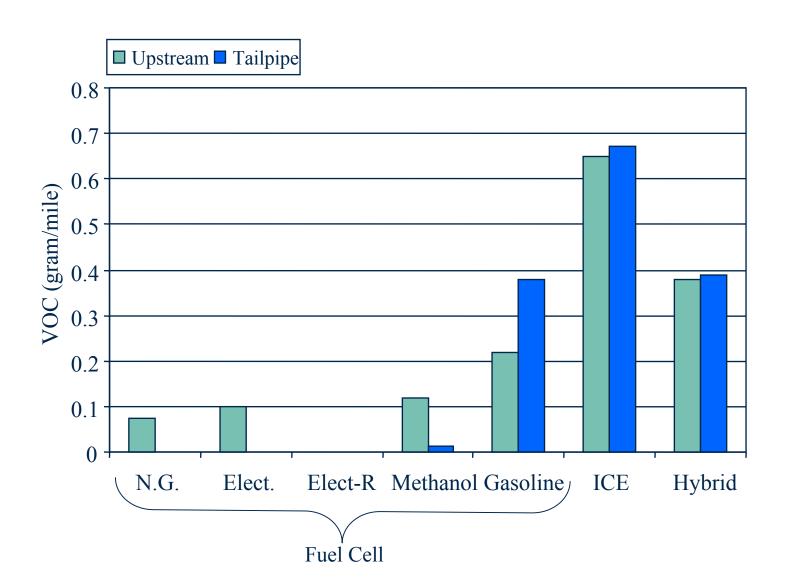
Jeep



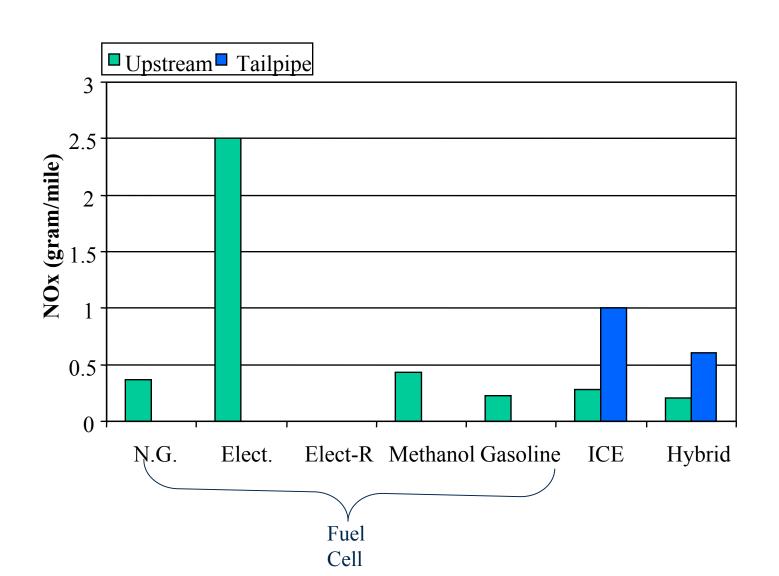
GM Opel Zafira

Fuel Cell Air Quality Impacts

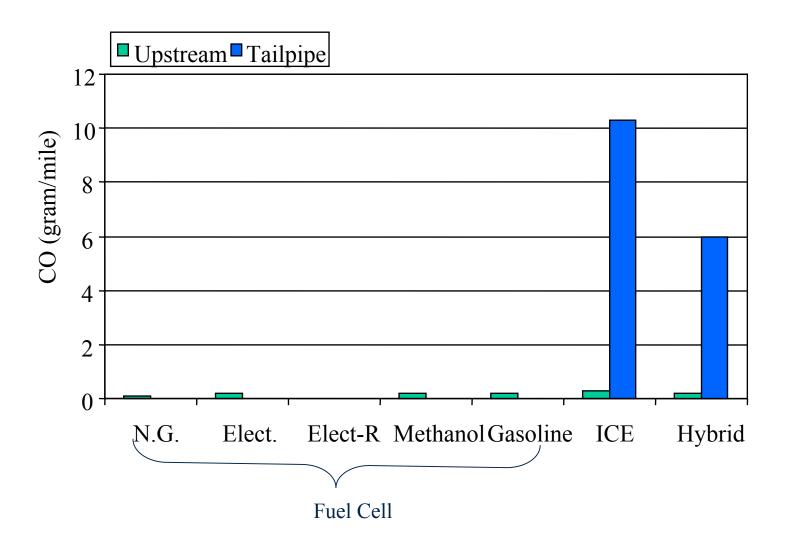
VOC Emissions



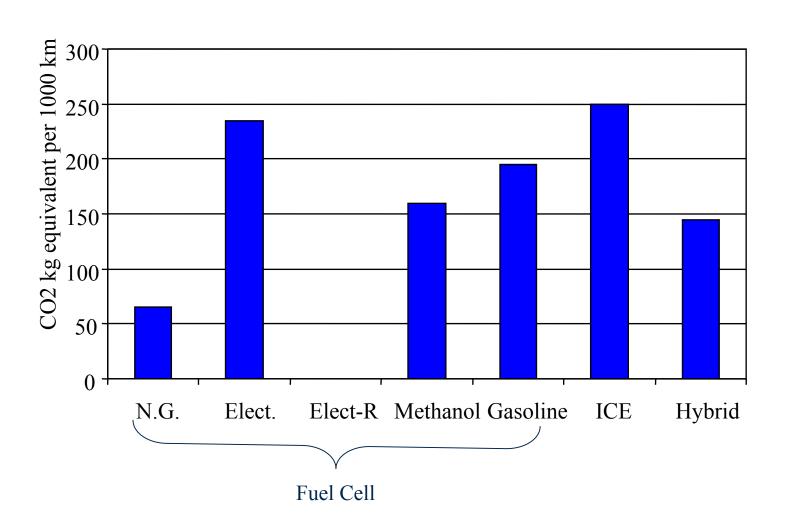
NOx Emissions



CO Emissions

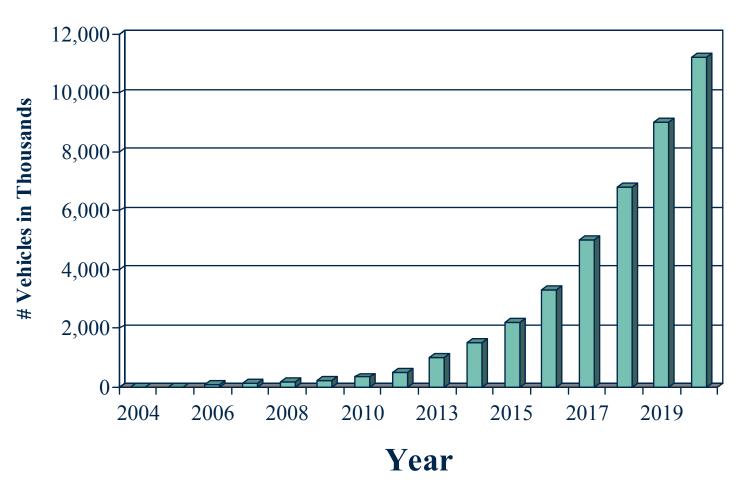


GHG Emissions



Fuel Cell Future ??

■ Fuel Cell Vehicle Sales



Based on estimates from: DOE and the Japanese Institute of Energy Economics

THANK YOU!!!

Robert Kosak York Technical College